

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, March 20, 1875.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

\$6.00 IN ADVANCE, OR \$2.50 IF NOT PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF DATE OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Postage Free to all Subscribers.

All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the next bills attached to these papers. The price will be in time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for money remitted by him.

A subscriber desiring to change his post office address or to change his paper, must communicate to us the name of the office to which it has previously been sent, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

Collector's Notices.

Mr. G. B. Farnham, Esq., has sent up our subscribers in Cumberland County.

Mr. W. S. Noves, of Saco, will call upon our subscribers in York County.

Mr. S. N. T. T. is now calling upon our subscribers in East Keene.

Mr. J. P. Clark will call upon our subscribers in Waldo County during March and April.

Notice to Delinquent Subscribers.

After this week's issue of the *Maine Farmer*, we shall commence dropping from our list the names of those subscribers who are long in arrear. Those therefore who fail to receive the paper, will thereby understand that it will no longer be sent to their address unless payment is made for all past indebtedness, and unless soon paid from us shall place their accounts in the hands of an attorney for collection.

Maine Farmer, Office, Feb. 20, 1875.

The Amended Postal Laws.

There is great dissatisfaction throughout the country at the postal legislation of the late session, which doubled the rate of postage on transient newspapers, books, and all mail matters of that class. It is said that these have been introduced as are intended to think that it was not an inexcusable one.

—Mrs. Keyton K. Parsons, formerly the efficient actress at the Insane Hospital, has been appointed to a similar position in the Young Women's Home in Portland. It is a good appointment.—Bright spring morning, Wednesday.—The Universalist Sociable appointed at Mr. Quincy's, has been postponed to next week Thursday evening.—J. Lincoln Libby, an assistant of M. L. Bright, was before the Municipal Court Tuesday, charged with selling liquor to Charles S. Hutchinson of Readfield, a lad of 16 years, and getting him beastly drunk. He was adjudged guilty and appealed.

THE VETERANS.—Joel Gardiner, who resides at Cross Hill (in Andover), was 96 years of age in December, 1874. He is a sturdy, hardy, and勇敢的老人, who early came from Nantucket, Mass., and settled in Canaan in this State. Many years ago he moved from Canaan to Sidney, and settled on the Foothills farm. He finally swapped his farm with Antonio Foote and moved to Cross Hill, where he died and where his son has resided.

Joel Gardiner married Polly Matthews, daughter of Captain Matthews, a master mariner of Sidney. They reared a family of eleven children, nine boys and two girls. Mrs. Gardiner died about 20 years ago. The old gentleman has lived on Cross Hill over 70 years, where he has engaged in farming and lumbering. Until recently he has always enjoyed excellent health, and up to last fall, he has for several years been in the habit of visiting Augusta as often as every month.

The cold weather of the past winter has confined him pretty closely to the house, but he hopes to be out again in the spring. This is the first one of the veterans whom we recently proposed to notice.

A correspondent at Madison gives us the names of the following persons in that town who are over ninety years of age: Mrs. Mary Cox, who was 96 July 19th, 1874; Isaac Hopkins, 90 Oct. 8th, 1874, and Daniel Reed 90 Dec. 18th, 1874. Mrs. Cox is able to labor about the house and go to the stable.

Mr. Reed is smart and can walk a mile without difficulty, and Mr. Hopkins is feeble both in mind and body. Mr. John Bullard of Pleasant's Ferry, written in a plain, round hand, that he is 90 years, 6 months and 12 days old.

Mr. Dudley Bunker of Trenton in the county of Hancock, writes as follows: "I was born on the island of Mt. Desert, now one of the most beautiful watering places in the Union. I shall be 92 years old the 22nd day of next April. I served in the war of 1812 as a man. I am now living on a farm that I bought sixty-four years ago last December. I am pale and healthy, enjoy my eyesight, hearing and a good appetite; cannot do a laboring man's work by the misfortune of a complaint called the asthma."

The resurrection of the franking privilege was no blunder, but it is anything but satisfactory. Already the mails begin to be encumbered with documents which are valuable only as paper stock, and most of them will sooner or later find their way into the paper mills. There is one peculiar feature about this law, and that is the right to frank these documents is confined to members of the forty-third Congress, many of whom have ceased to be members and returned to private life. Members of the forty-four Congress who were not members of the forty-third, do not have this right. Thus the franking privilege is extended to members of a defunct Congress, to continue for nine months after the Congress has given up the ghost. In the passage of this law, no party lines were drawn, but it was supported by members of both parties, and the next year and a half, though called for by the

Senate, it was not.

The operations in cutting Keene are the only feature of the new postage law to which we especially object, is the one which requires the postage to be doubled on printed matter. A general diffusion of knowledge is so important, that no burdenome and unnecessary tax should be laid upon the means by which it is disseminated. It is not the same with mere merchandise and if this is carried through the mails, it should not be carried at a loss to the Government. We have no doubt that this obnoxious amendment will be modified early in the next session, and in the meantime we must submit as patiently as we can.

The Coroner's jury in the alleged homicide case of Charles, of James E. Gray, rendered a verdict of *not guilty*. They found that said Gray came to his death on the evening of the sixth of March, by asphyxia resulting from a combination of the following causes, viz: A predisposition to asphyxia, caused by a former habit of epileptic fits; excessive use of intoxicating liquors for some time previous to his death; drunkenness at the time thereof, and the exciting effect of disorderly conduct during the afternoon and evening, previous thereto, together with excitement and over exertion in a struggle, which then took place between him and one David Thurston. Furthermore they found the evidence not conclusive that the death resulted from any criminal action on the part of said Thurston. Geo. F. Granger, one of the jurors, dissented from the foregoing verdict, and renders his verdict as follows: That said Gray came to his death by asphyxia, produced by a blow received in a struggle with David Thurston and E. W. Howe (a policeman) with a stick; that said E. W. Howe was the one present, shown by the testimony, to have a stick in his hand at the time of the death.

"The *Asbury Reformer* is the title of a monthly printed and well filled paper, just started in the winter, and devoted as its name indicates to the temperance reform. *Asbury Brod.*, publishers; *Preston B. Wing*, editor.

"The hearing in the case of Wagstaff and Gordon was before Judge Virgin at Rockland, Tuesday and Wednesday. A decision will be rendered Monday.

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CITY NEWS AND GOSPEL.

Dept. Warden has conducted Charles H. Britton, William D. and Charles M. Carter to the State Prison Thursday.—We noticed last week a full-blooded South Dyer, mutts at Dow & Storer's meat shop, which weighed 114 pounds. Dr. Bouteille of Waterville, raised it.—Geo. C. Hammond, who has been confined in the Kennebec Jail, on a warrant sworn out by Detective Wortman, has been discharged and made lively time towards the Province. The Grand Jury did not investigate his case, but he was afraid of being wanted in Massachusetts.—W. T. Folson reading on Church Hill, last week took in a young man, who gave his name as Charles Glidden and who was in destitute circumstances and gave him employment and a comfortable home. After remaining there about a week, taking advantage of Mr. Folson's absence, he stole a carpet-bag, a quantity of clothing and other things, and went away and has not since been heard of.

—We regret to learn that Oren Howe of this city, is suffering from a stroke of paralysis.—After this week comes the spring vacation in the Village School District.—Jos. H. Clark, formerly telegraphic operator in this city, has been placed in charge of a branch office of the Western Union line, at 318 Devereux street, Boston.—Capt. Geo. B. Fernald, member of the Legislature from Winton, who has been sick at the Central House since the close of the session, has so far recovered as to be able to go to his home.—The soft weather of the past few days has materially lessened the snow, and nearly spoiled the sleighing in this city.

—By the report of the Auditor the condition of the state of our finances, and what can be done to improve their condition. Owing to the depression and general stagnation of business, the revenue has not secured some eighteen months ago, the effects of which are now being felt in nearly all the interior towns in New England, by a depreciation in the value of manufactured goods, and the demand for labor has reduced prices to furnish our exports, it is plainly our duty to curb our expenses, in a properly manner consistent with public interest, and enforce in every department the strict economy.

—By the report of the Auditor the following named officers were reported:

—John Gardner, W. H. Smith, Danforth Davis, Wm. Wing, J. H. Isaacs, Munsey, D. W. Tyler, Chas. L. Brann, Chas. H. Mills, W. H. Hulme, Simeon H. H. Holmes, W. H. Fife, W. S. Fife, F. S. Stevens, W. S. Fife, Cyrus Ballard, T. A. Saunders, J. C. B. Morton, Ira. Randal, T. E. Bartlett, J. T. Fuller, John Jewett, A. H. Small, T. Parker, W. H. Steward, George Barnes, D. T. Turner, P. Sturtevant, T. A. Saunders, J. E. Ward, H. A. B. Chandler, W. F. Perrell, J. L. F. Fish, Peter Boothby, P. H. Hall, James N. Wade, Charles R. Hall, A. Folson, John D. Lutton.

—By the report of the Auditor the following named officers were reported:

—Temporary Loans, \$36,000.00; Due on 5 per cent. Bonds of July 1, 1862, \$100,000.00; Due on 5 per cent. Bonds of July 1, 1864, \$100,000.00.

—\$31,981.00 of 5 per cent. Bonds due in January.

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